

# Help America Vote Act HAVA

## The Status of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) in Iowa

Provided by Secretary of State  
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# Overview

## Members of the Iowa General Assembly:

Since the last update of the status of the federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) state plan implementation in 2004, Iowa has continued to implement the State Help America Vote Act (HAVA) plan throughout a very busy and productive year. The Secretary of State's Office, along with County Auditors and other partners at the local and state level, moved forward with the implementation process outlined in the updated HAVA State Plan to ensure the best use of federal, state and local funds. The implementation of the HAVA State Plan in 2005 focused on four key areas:

- A Statewide Voter Registration System (I-VOTERS).
- Allocation of funds and assistance for counties when purchasing Voting Equipment.
- Assisting Election Officials in providing a consistent training mechanism for their colleagues, staff and poll workers.
- An aggressive funding program to remove physical barriers at polling places.

The Secretary of State's Office would like to take this opportunity to recognize local election officials and their staff who have demonstrated integrity, determination and commitment through their tireless efforts to comply with HAVA requirements at the local level. Iowa's plan has always had a strong local tone. The diligence of officials in 99 counties has resulted in the successes related to HAVA implementation.

The Iowa Secretary of State's Office has continued its retention of State Public Policy Group (SPPG) to assist in the HAVA planning and implementation process, for project management and special research. This relationship will continue throughout 2006.

## Legislative Activity

Legislative activity relating to HAVA at the state level resulted in no significant changes in 2005. Both the House and Senate engaged in debate over HAVA-related legislation, but no bills were approved. The Secretary of State's Office revised the administrative rules related to accessible polling places to ensure greater accessibility in Iowa's effort to become 100 percent accessible. In an effort to keep the Legislature informed of progress, Chet Culver, Secretary of State, provided updates to the Government Oversight Committee on February 22 and December 14, 2005.

### Legislation

Legislators introduced many bills during the 2005 session that addressed Iowa elections or HAVA directly. Three bills received the greatest level of debate with one house passing each, but all of them failed to receive the support of both houses and the governor.

### **House File 644**

This bill makes certain corrective changes to elections and voter registration that include the following provisions:

- Prohibiting the processing of certain voter registration applications,
- Allowing certain voter registrations to be submitted after the deadline,
- Removing the requirement for separate entrances to buildings where polling places for more than one precinct are located,
- Requiring names of candidates for nonpartisan office to be printed on the ballot in alphabetical order,
- Modifying opening hours of the polls at certain elections,
- Allowing the voter's declaration of eligibility to be printed on the election register,
- Allowing absentee voting at the commissioner's office for part of the day of the election for certain elections,
- Modifying the time period during which a person may request an absentee ballot,
- Requiring the registered voter's date of birth on the absentee ballot application,
- Clarifying that certain confined persons may vote an absentee ballot in person at the commissioner's office,
- Changing the deadline for challenging an absentee voter's qualifications, and
- Repealing the provisions declaring it unlawful for an absentee voter to fail to return the voter's absentee ballot.

The bill passed the House 98 – 0 and was referred to the Senate State Government Committee.

### **House File 793**

This bill relates to the conduct of elections and voter registration by making the following changes:

- Providing when candidates to fill county office vacancies are to be nominated at the primary election,
- Requiring legislative council approval of certain expenditures for implementation of the Help America Vote Act,
- Modifying closing hours of the polls,
- Modifying identification requirements at the polls,
- Providing grounds for challenging a voter's qualifications,
- Striking the authority of the state or county commissioner to issue a notice of a technical infraction,
- Prohibiting candidates or incumbents from being observers when absentee ballots are counted,
- Clarifying that certain confined persons may vote an absentee ballot in person at the commissioner's office,
- Imposing a prohibition on absentee ballot couriers,
- Prohibiting certain communications when absentee ballots are being counted,

- Exempting military and overseas voters from the identification and verification requirements for mail voter registrants,
- Exempting military and overseas voters from absentee ballot return restrictions,
- Allowing certain military voters to return absentee ballots from within the United States,
- Striking a requirement related to counting federal write-in ballots,
- Defining voter registration list,
- Requiring identification of certain voter registrants,
- Requiring verification of certain information on all voter registrations received by mail,
- Specifying the county commissioner as the official responsible for voter registration verification, and
- Limiting the dates of special elections on public measures for certain political subdivisions and school corporations.

The bill passed the House 51 – 48 and was referred to the Senate State Government Committee where it was assigned a subcommittee.

### **Senate File 123**

This bill allows an immediate family member of an absentee voter to deliver the voted ballot to the commissioner's office. The bill passed the Senate 34 – 15 and was amended by the House State Government Committee. It was placed on the House calendar under unfinished business.

All three of these bills remain eligible for action by the Legislature during the 2006 session.

### **Administrative Rules**

The Secretary of State has filed revised Administrative Code changes to Chapter 21 regarding accessibility waivers for polling places. The proposed change revises the instructions for applications for waivers of accessibility requirements for polling places, increasing the documentation required to apply for a waiver. In the past year, the Secretary of State has distributed over \$700,000 in grant funds made available under HAVA to counties to make polling places accessible. In March of 2005, the Secretary of State informed all counties that after 2005 waivers would be granted only if substantial documentation supported the need for such waivers.

According to the proposed language, to qualify for a waiver the auditor must submit letters from three elected officials from governing bodies that include this precinct (city officials, county supervisors, or township officials) supporting the finding that there is no accessible place within the precinct that can be used for a polling place. The auditor must explain why it is not reasonable to move this polling place to another accessible location outside the precinct or to combine it with another that is accessible. Buildings used as polling places must be accessible on Election Day; buildings used for polling places are not necessarily required to be permanently accessible. The public comment period on the revised rules closed on January 10, 2006; and the rules will become effective in March 2006.

## **EAC 2005 Voluntary Voting System Guidelines**

On December 13, 2005, the U.S. Election Assistance Coalition (EAC) adopted Voluntary Voting System Guidelines aimed at increasing security requirements and expanding access for all voters. The guidelines are effective December 2007, at which time voting systems will no longer be tested against the 2002 Voting System Standards. However, states may voluntarily adopt, in part or in whole, these guidelines prior to the effective date. The voluntary guidelines provide a set of specifications and requirements to test voting systems to ensure basic functionality, accessibility, and security capabilities. The Guidelines address the advancements in information and computer technologies to update the 2002 standards.

Volume I, Voting System Performance Guidelines, includes new requirements for accessibility, usability, voting system software distribution, system setup validation and for wireless communications. It provides an overview of the requirements for Independent Verification systems, including requirements for a voter verified paper audit trail for states that require this feature for their voting systems. Volume I also includes the requirement that all voting system vendors submit software to the National Software Reference Library, which will allow local election officials to make sure the voting system software they purchase is the same software that was certified.

Volume II, National Certification Testing Guidelines, describes the components of the national certification testing process for voting systems, which will be performed by independent voting system test labs accredited by EAC. EAC is mandated by HAVA to develop a national program to accredit test laboratories and certify, decertify and re-certify voting systems.

## **HAVA Requirements for Voting Systems**

Section 301(a) of HAVA sets forth the standards that voting systems must meet after January 1, 2006.

The Section 301(a) requirements state that all voting systems must be able to perform the following functions:

1. Allow the voter to review selections before casting a ballot;
2. Allow the voter to change selections before casting a final vote;
3. Notify the voter when more selections are made than permitted;
4. Provide for the production of a permanent paper record suitable to be used in a manual recount;
5. Provide voters with disabilities, the same opportunity for access and participation (including privacy and independence);
6. Provide accessibility in minority languages for voters with limited English proficiency as required by Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965; and

7. Provide for an error rate in operating the voting system that is no greater than the error rate set forth the 2002 Voting System Standards.

Under the Iowa HAVA Plan adopted in final form last spring, each county has a choice in the specific type of voting equipment to acquire and the specific vendor with which to contract. Although there is no requirement under HAVA to purchase voting systems that include a voter verified paper audit trail (VVPAT), Secretary Culver has strongly encouraged counties to acquire such systems. Last Spring, Secretary Culver and Governor Vilsack sent a joint letter to all county auditors urging them to invest in a system with VVPAT.

## **Financial Oversight**

The HAVA Financial Oversight Committee continues to review financial reports relating to HAVA and provide oversight over expenditures. The Financial Oversight Committee meets prior to State Advisory Committee meetings to review expenditures and discuss other related issues. Mike King, Supervisor from Union County, continues to chair the Financial Oversight Committee. Others on this committee are: State Treasurer Mike Fitzgerald, Iowa State Association of County Auditors President Judy Howrey, Iowa State Association of County Auditors Past President Pat Gill, Polk County Auditor Michael Mauro, and disabilities advocate Mike Hoenig.

The following principles continue to guide the Financial Oversight Committee as decisions are made about the expenditure of HAVA funding:

- Use the HAVA Plan Budget as the guide to all expenditures.
- Spend in excess of 80% of the funds to directly benefit Iowa's voters and counties.
- Minimize funding for administration.

The Financial Oversight Committee routinely reviewed detailed information about the HAVA budget, specifically examining decisions about expenditures. In addition to providing valuable input regarding the most efficient use of funds, the Committee also helped set priorities and served as a system of accountability over public funds. Many of the meetings were spent analyzing budget details and discussing efficient and equitable allocation of funds in ways that met the objectives of HAVA.

## **HAVA Funds**

When Congress passed HAVA legislation in 2002, it appropriated approximately \$4 billion to be used throughout all states and territories to help meet the requirements of the new law. Iowa's share of the federal appropriation was \$29 million, and the federal government is not expected to appropriate any further funds for HAVA in 2006.

### HAVA Revenue (Current and Estimated)

Expenditure Category	Funds	Clarification
HAVA Title I	\$5,000,000	Minimum amount of planning funds for every state
State Funds – 2003	\$423,000	Intergovernmental transfer for FY 2003 5% match
State Funds – 2004	\$765,000	State appropriation for FY 2004 5% state match
HAVA Title II – 2003 & 2004	\$23,739,383	Federal funds for two years
EAID Grants - 2005 & 2006	\$222,161	
GDDC – 2005	\$10,000	
Interest – 2003-2008	\$1,223,121	Projected
<b>Revenue Total</b>	<b>\$31,382,665</b>	

### HAVA Expenditures (Projected)

Expenditure Category	Funds	Clarification
Voter Registration System	\$8,097,311	A contract was signed in January 2005 with Saber Consulting based on a competitive bid to provide a statewide voter registration system using specifications compiled from county registration system surveys. The budgeted amount includes additional funds for the purchase of data center hardware and county equipment upgrades (computers and scanners) to ensure compatibility.
Voting Systems	\$18,771,837	Only equipment qualified by national standards and certified by the state of Iowa will be eligible to receive HAVA reimbursement. To ensure an equitable distribution and encourage efficiency, funds for equipment purchases are allocated to counties based on a formula combining number of registered voters and number of precincts.
Provisional Voting	\$3,903	To keep current with provisional voting practices across the country and ensure HAVA-compliance, Secretary of State's staff has attended national meetings on this subject.
ADA Accessible Polling Places	\$580,146	The Secretary of State's office coordinated funding from a variety of sources to make Polling Place Accessibility grants to reimburse counties for the costs of making improvements to increase accessibility. Currently, 521 precincts in 84 counties have received grants.
Training and Education	\$3,001,505	Training and education efforts have focused on election officials and poll workers as one group and the general public as a second group. These efforts address issues of accessibility, voting etiquette, voter registration and election systems and voting equipment.
Administration	\$911,850	Administrative funds will be used to ensure all HAVA requirements and other specific activities to improve Iowa's election system are thoroughly and adequately completed.
Contingency	\$16,112	Dollars in the contingency fund will be used to pay for unforeseen expenses and to supplement the other categories.
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$31,382,665</b>	

Detailed information on HAVA revenues and expenditures is available at the end of this document or in the complete financial report on the Iowa Secretary of State's official website at the following location: [www.sos.state.ia.us/elections/hava/Funds/index.html](http://www.sos.state.ia.us/elections/hava/Funds/index.html). All figures presented are as of December 2005.



## **Accessibility and Disability Issues**

One of the key elements of the Help America Vote Act is its requirement to provide voting equipment that is accessible to all voters. This landmark change will allow many persons with disabilities to vote a secret ballot for the first time in their lives. In addition to complying with those requirements, Iowa is undertaking other activities to contribute to the full participation in elections by persons with disabilities:

### **Polling Place Accessibility Grants**

The Secretary of State's Office received a grant through the US Department Health and Human Services for addressing polling place accessibility issues. The Governor's Developmental Disabilities Council and Iowa Protection and Advocacy's Voter Access (PAVA) also offered grants that were collaboratively implemented with HAVA funding.

Through this joint effort, grants have been made available for counties to meet accessibility standards for polling places. Counties were required to pay the initial costs of making polling places accessible, and then were reimbursed by the Secretary of State's Office through a formal grant process.

In 2004, Iowa's Polling Place Accessibility Grant Program funded accessibility improvements at 39 polling places in 16 counties. While the program was highly successful, a significant number of polling places remained inaccessible. To make greater progress toward ADA compliance, the grant program was expanded in 2005. With the program now complete, the following statistics represent the impact of grants awarded in 2004 and 2005:

- 480 grants awarded in 2005/ 521 total
- 82 counties received grants in 2005/ 84 total
- \$650,132 grant dollars approved in 2005/ \$709,747 total

### **Accessible Voting Equipment**

HAVA accessibility requirements state that each precinct must have a machine that is accessible for individuals with disabilities, including non-visual accessibility for the blind and visually impaired, in a manner that provides the same opportunity for access and participation (including privacy and independence) as for other voters. Counties that needed HAVA-compliant machines made accessible equipment purchases in 2005. For more information on voting equipment, refer to the section of this report entitled "Voting Equipment/Election Systems".

### **Outreach and Advocacy**

The HAVA legislation requires that specific efforts be made to ensure that voters have appropriate training regarding all elements of the voting process. Through the recommendation of the HAVA State Advisory Committee and the Training and Education Subcommittee, a

targeted outreach and education effort was developed in 2005 and will continue in 2006 regarding the purchase and use of new accessible voting equipment.

- Public meetings were conducted in the spring of 2005 in twelve locations around the state. The purpose of the meetings was to engage the public and share information about the HAVA State plan implementation with a focus on accessibility and local equipment purchases.
- The Secretary of State's Office co-sponsored an event in September highlighting independence for persons with disabilities. The event, Independence Today, served as both outreach and education for persons with disabilities regarding the voting process and the new accessible voting equipment.
- The Secretary of State worked in conjunction with the Governor's Developmental Disabilities Council in promoting a "Day on the Hill" for persons with disabilities. This provides an opportunity for persons with disabilities to learn and communicate about voting issues with their state policymakers.

### **County Advocates**

In order to facilitate the voting systems and accessibility portions of HAVA, the Secretary of State's office added county advocate staffing assignments to serve as county liaisons and assist in the implementation process. Each county advocate was assigned to work with several counties and provide assistance in the following areas related to accessibility:

- Work with County to review polling places for accessibility
- Assist County in developing plans to improve polling place accessibility
- Assist County in applying for Accessibility Grants

For more information regarding county advocates, refer to the section of this report entitled "Communication with Local Officials, Staff, and Policymakers".

## **HAVA State Plan**

As implementation of the HAVA State Plan progressed, the need for additional public outreach and training to accomplish successful and timely implementation of HAVA mandates became apparent, along with an increased need for additional specificity. From the outset, plan revision, like other HAVA work, was conducted in an open, public, and transparent environment. The transparency of the development of plan revisions and inclusion of feedback from citizens and local election officials continues to build in accountability, resulting in Iowa being on schedule and on-target with its implementation of the HAVA State Plan. The revision was approved January 26, 2005.

To ensure the Plan update accurately reflected the concerns and needs of voters and local election officials and their staff members, the Secretary of State's office held a series of local public outreach meetings, co-hosted by County Auditors, to gather feedback and suggestions from citizens of Iowa. This public input will be combined with additional input from the Advisory

Committee to provided an ensured that appropriate changes and adjustments were made to the HAVA State Plan.

Plan Revisions included:

- The establishment of a training and outreach program to be housed in the Secretary of State's office. This program will serve as the liaison among all county auditors regarding training, ensuring county auditor participation in training development, statewide standardization, coordination among county auditors and vendors responsible for new technologies, and general consistency of message and delivery across the State of Iowa. This entity will also track progress and report on effectiveness of training and outreach efforts.
- The enhancement, where necessary, of State and County election materials for accuracy, accessibility and ease of use. This is designed to increase accurate voter registration, increase voter turnout in all elections, reduce the number of voting errors, inform voters of the means to obtain replacement and provisional ballots, and assure access to the electoral process to all voters.
- The Secretary of State assisting County Auditors in re-designing their poll worker training materials to ensure consistency in election-day management of Iowa's polling places. These materials will be designed to assure equal access to the electoral process for all voters and guide the poll workers to be able to administer the election efficiently, effectively and fairly to all voters in consideration to lowans of diverse cultures, skills and abilities.
- The Secretary of State facilitating the development of a web-based poll worker training system, to make the adjustments to poll worker training more accessible to poll workers throughout Iowa, this provides and opportunity to increase the poll worker's amount of training without placing additional burden on county auditor's time to prepare for elections.
- The Secretary of State assisting the County Auditors in Iowa through the State Election Administrator's Training by ensuring uniformity of training information and by enhancing training materials to best suit the training needs of election officials on HAVA compliance. A plan is developed, and will be implemented starting January 1, 2006.

The Iowa HAVA State Plan can be found on the web at  
<http://www.sos.state.ia.us/pdfs/elections/havastateplan.pdf>.

## **HAVA State Plan Advisory Committee**

In 2003, the HAVA State Plan Advisory Committee was formed to develop and oversee implementation of Iowa's State HAVA Plan.

- The committee was formed with a focus on balancing gender, geography, ethnicity, and political affiliation.

- Includes the president of the Iowa State Association of County Auditors (ISACA) and immediate past president of the Iowa State Association of County Supervisors (ISACS).
- Also includes representatives from the disability community.

The HAVA Advisory Committee remains committed to overseeing the Plan's implementation, meeting quarterly for updates and progress reports.

#### **Iowa's State Plan Advisory Committee Members, as of November 2005**

- Jill Avery, Director, Iowa Department of Human Rights
- Kimberly Baxter, Iowa Commission on the Status of African-Americans
- Francis Boggus, Council Bluffs, Attorney
- Cyndi Chen, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
- Bob Cink, Kossuth County Supervisor
- Chet Culver, Iowa Secretary of State
- Peggy Elliott, City Council of Grinnell and National Federation of the Blind
- Michael L. Fitzgerald, Treasurer of State of Iowa
- Mary Gaskill, Iowa House of Representatives
- Pat Gill, Woodbury County Auditor and Past President of County Auditors, ISACA
- Michael Gronstal, Iowa State Senate Co-leader
- Mike Hoenig, Director, IDEAS Program Center for Disabilities and Development; University of Iowa, Iowa City
- Judy Howrey, Calhoun County Auditor, President of County Auditors, ISACA through December 31, 2005
- Libby Jacobs, Iowa House of Representatives
- Vernon Johnson, PACE, Des Moines
- Adam Kaduce, State of Iowa Youth Action Committee
- Mike King, Union County Board of Supervisors and Past President of Supervisors Affiliate, ISAC
- Bruce Koeppel, Director, Iowa AARP
- Linda Langenberg, Linn County Auditor
- Joey Lewis, Student, Iowa School for the Deaf
- Jennifer Martindale, Pastor, Iowa Central Deaf Assembly of God, Clive
- Michael Mauro, Polk County Auditor
- Pat Murphy, Minority Leader, Iowa House of Representatives
- Jan McNelly, Past President, League of Women Voters of Iowa
- Lannie Miller, Supervisor, Palo Alto County
- Skywalker Payne, Community Programs Coordinator, ICLU
- Sylvia Piper, Iowa Protection and Advocacy Services

- Marjorie Pitts, Clay County Auditor, President of County Auditors, ISACA, beginning January 1, 2005
- Rik Shannon, Governor's Developmental Disabilities Council, Department of Human Services, Des Moines
- Mark Zieman, Iowa State Senate

## **Communication with Local Officials, Staff and Policy Makers**

It continues to be the practice of the Secretary of State to provide information about HAVA implementation and progress to Iowa's voters and citizens, county election officials, and state policymakers. Priority was placed on the initial planning to emphasize transparency in all steps of the implementation of the HAVA State Plan.

### **Public Meetings**

Public meetings were conducted in the spring of 2005 in twelve locations around the state. The purposes of the meetings were to engage the public and share information about the HAVA State plan implementation with a focus on accessibility and local equipment purchases. Separate sessions were held in the same communities for boards of supervisors and county election officials to discuss their timelines, options, responsibilities and expectations regarding voting equipment procurement and other HAVA activities.

### **HAVA News**

Bi-weekly electronic publication highlighting steps in the implementation of the HAVA State plan

- Serves as a cost-efficient tool in effectively communicating with interested individuals
- Current circulation is more than 250 individuals per edition. Please note the sample HAVA News located in the appendix of this report.

Currently emailed to:

- Members of the State Plan Advisory Committee
- All additional working groups
- All County Auditors
- Equipment vendors
- Legislators that serve on pertinent committees and the Governor's Office
- Other interested parties

### **Web Access**

The Secretary of State posts on the website information regarding Iowa's implementation of HAVA. That website can be accessed at:

<http://www.sos.state.ia.us/elections/HAVA/HAVAReports.html>

The Secretary of State also maintains a website containing voter-specific information. That website can be accessed at: <http://www.IowaVotes.us>

## **County Advocates**

The Secretary of State recognized the burden of staff time that HAVA compliance imposed upon counties. Local officials, who often have very limited staff resources, were being asked to comb through a complex federal voting law, review their options for equipment purchases, work with vendors, negotiate contracts and obtain delivery of new voting machines. All of this was happening against a backdrop of new machines being certified for use and vendors preferred by some officials failing to become certified as HAVA-compliant. A minefield of process and regulation was emerging. In response to concerns about the complexity of issues facing local officials, the Secretary of State's Office added local capacity in the form of County Advocates. These individuals worked directly with County Auditors and their staff to help facilitate the completion of paperwork for voting systems orders and polling place accessibility surveys, a necessary step in obtaining polling place accessibility grants. Six County Advocates worked in a regional capacity to assist County Auditors and their staff in meeting HAVA requirements in a timely fashion. County Advocates were assigned responsibilities in the following areas:

- Voting Systems Project
  - Assist County in completing County Compliance Plan.
  - Assist County in completing Allocation Application.
  - Assist County in completing Allocation Agreement and submitting Vendor Contract.
  - Assist County with implementing new equipment.
- Accessibility Project
  - Work with County to review polling places for accessibility.
  - Assist County in developing plans to improve polling place accessibility.
  - Assist County in applying for Accessibility Grants.
- Other Responsibilities
  - Assist County in obtaining information from the Secretary of State's Office.
- Resources used by the County Advocates included:
  - The Americans with Disabilities Act Checklist for Readily Available Barrier Removal.
  - The U.S. Department of Justice Civil Right's Division's Accessibility Review.
  - The Americans with Disabilities Act's ADA Checklist for Polling Places.

## **Additional Outreach**

The Iowa State Association of Counties (ISAC) holds spring and fall training conferences, and the Secretary of State staff continues to make presentations at those conferences to provide updates on HAVA implementation progress.

- Secretary of State Culver and other staff members of the Secretary of State's Office presented to ISAC on November 14th regarding the future funding needs for software and hardware maintenance for I-VOTERS (Iowa-Voter's Online Technology secure Election Registration System.)

- The Secretary of State's Office has also presented at periodic ISAC regional meetings throughout the state in calendar year 2005.

## **Voter Registration System**

HAVA requires a single, statewide voter registration system be in operation by January 1, 2006. Iowa has complied with that deadline.

### **I-VOTERS**

I-VOTERS is the name of Iowa's statewide voter registration system. This stands for Iowa Voters' Online Technology-secure Election Registration System. This system is a web-based statewide voter database that can be accessed from every County Auditor's office. In the past, some counties maintained their own voter database, which was uploaded into a statewide voter file periodically, and other counties used a database maintained at the state level.

A competitive bid process was conducted starting September 17, 2004.

- The voter registration software contract with Saber Consulting was signed on January 18, 2005, for a cost of \$2,689,000 for the software development and data migration. Approximately an additional \$1,000,000 was spent on equipment placed in counties.
- Thirteen counties agreed to serve as pilot counties during initial stages of the system development.
- Crucial support and guidance was provided throughout the planning and the Advisory Committee provided guidance, development and implementation of I-VOTERS.
- Each county progressed through five steps as they move to the I-VOTERS System after receiving localized training on the system from Secretary of State staff.
  - Equipment Delivery. Equipment includes computers and printers used to capture and control data for voter registration purposes.
  - Initial Data Migration.
  - Training.
  - Final Data Migration.
  - Move to I-VOTERS.
- All of these steps have been completed.
- Funds have been allocated through FY '08 in the current HAVA budget to sustain I-VOTERS without county funds or additional general fund appropriations.
- The Secretary of State's Office is negotiating a 3-year service agreement with Saber Consulting. Future software enhancements are expected.
- Materials pertaining to the voter registration system process appear on the Secretary of State's website.

The I-VOTERS system allows real-time data sharing among the counties and the Secretary of State's Office. It is intended reduce the number of duplicate registrations, make the transmission

of voting data on election night easier and faster, and provide uniformity in the voter registration process throughout the state.

### **Implementation Update**

County Auditors and their staffs were subjected to rigorous training in the last months of 2005. A program of full-day sessions meeting weekly for eight weeks was completed at eight remote sites throughout the state. The training operated by Saber and Secretary of State staff and was well received. The training team logged over 110 days of training County Auditors and staff on the I-VOTERS system, totaling over 1,000 hours.

All counties have received their equipment needed to run the I-VOTERS system. All counties are connected to the system, and the migration of their data completed. This was completed by the December 31, 2005 deadline. The Secretary of State's office has implemented a help desk with Secretary of State staff to assist counties in troubleshooting technical issues that they encounter using the I-VOTERS system. Additional software development with counties will continue in 2006.

### **Midwest Voter Registration Cross-Checking Agreement**

On December 12, 2005 Secretaries of State representing four Midwest states announced a first-of-its kind data crosschecking agreement. Secretaries of State representing Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska signed an agreement that is expected to improve election administration in each state and help meet new federal voting system standards. The pact was part of the opening session of the fifth annual Midwest Election Officials Conference in Overland Park, KS.

The agreement will allow each state, among other things, to check its database of registered voters on a regular basis against the databases of other states to eliminate duplicate registrations and purge the names of people who have passed away in other states.

## **Voting Equipment/Election Systems**

HAVA requires that all voting systems must be in place by January 1, 2006. Iowa is in compliance with this requirement. All new equipment will be compliant with a number of standards relating to individual privacy and accessibility.

- Beginning with any federal election held in 2006 (the Iowa primary on June 6, 2006, is the first such scheduled election), systems used in Federal elections must provide for error correction by voters, manual auditing, accessibility, alternative languages, and meet federal error-rate standards. Systems must also maintain voter privacy and ballot confidentiality.
- HAVA accessibility requirements state that each precinct must have a machine that is accessible for individuals with disabilities, including non-visual accessibility for the blind



and visually impaired, in a manner that provides the same opportunity for access and participation (including privacy and independence) as for other voters. HAVA further states that a direct recording electronic (DRE) machine meets this definition.

- HAVA requires that all election equipment meet the machine error rate standards set by the 2002 Federal Election Commission (FEC) Voting System Standards. The 2002 standards changed the acceptable error rate to 1 for every 10 million ballot positions. Many voting machines currently in use in Iowa do not meet the more rigorous error rate standards.
- The state cannot certify or approve the use of equipment until it is approved at the federal level.

### **Key Issues**

The following provides an update on key activities or issues:

- The Diebold Precinct Count and Direct Recording Electronic machines have been certified as well as the ES&S Precinct Count and Direct Recording Electronic machines.
- The Iowa Secretary of States Office expects the ES&S Automark system to become certified for use in Iowa, now that it has been certified at the Federal level.
- Many counties throughout Iowa determined in advance which equipment they would purchase based on current equipment and experience with specific companies.
- The Advisory Committee approved the suggested blended funding formula in order to ensure an equitable distribution of funds to counties for purchasing new equipment.
- Please reference appendix for graphical representation of voting equipment distribution among counties.

An Executive Committee of representatives of the HAVA Advisory and Financial Oversight Committees convened to investigate possibilities for a blended (per voter and per precinct) funding formula. The Executive Committee worked out funding figures for each county based on a blended formula and compared those numbers to the funding each county would have received on a per-registered voter and a per-precinct basis.

### **Update on Compliance**

All 99 counties in Iowa completed purchase contracts for HAVA compliant voting equipment as of December 22, 2005. The local Boards of Supervisors and the Iowa Secretary of State office have approved all of the purchase contracts. The attached map labeled, "Voting System Allocation Applications Approved," dated Dec. 22, 2005 provides current information. Many counties have taken delivery of their equipment already with all equipment to be delivered early in 2006. A map is included that details, which company each county, selected to purchase voting equipment from as well as registered voters in each county.

# Training and Education

## Training and Education Audiences

HAVA training and education efforts are required for three groups:

- Election officials (state and local)
- Poll workers
- General public

The Iowa Secretary of State's Office is currently working to ensure the State meets HAVA requirements as it implements key strategies and activities. Training and education for state and local election officials, poll workers and the general public is required in the HAVA federal legislation. Training and education efforts have been focused on election officials and poll workers as one group and voters and the general public as a second group. The content of training and education efforts may differ, but both address issues of accessibility, voting etiquette, voter registration and election systems and voting equipment. Building on successful approaches from other states, the training and education advisory groups support the notion that Iowans receive the best training and education possible.

## Training and Education Advisory Groups

Two advisory groups have helped create training and education for Iowa to improve voting participation and knowledge of the system across the state. One group is primarily made up of election officials, and has assisted in developing training and education efforts for state and local election officials and poll workers. The second group focuses on statewide outreach efforts for all Iowans in order to increase voting participation across the state. This group also centers its attention on increasing voting participation among people with disabilities, young voters, first-time voters, and minority populations in the state.

## Outreach Efforts

Training and education outreach efforts have been and will continue to be provided in a variety of venues and by appropriate trainers. More technical training and education focused on accessibility issues, voting equipment, and voter registration and elections systems will be offered to state and local election officials (i.e., SEAT training), vendors, and advocacy groups. Public and voter education will include more general messages and explain voting processes and systems, provide informative details, and encourage voting participation.

## Election Officials and Poll Workers

The following highlights key activities undertaken regarding election officials and poll workers during 2005:

- Auditors and other election officials are working with the State Election Administrator Training (SEAT) program's Executive Committee on increasing the program's longevity

with HAVA funds. The Secretary of State's Office has set aside approximately \$600,000 of HAVA funds over the next three years to ensure that SEAT training continues and to include continuing education requirements to maintain certification.

- A 28E Agreement between SEAT, Secretary of State's Office, and Iowa State Association of Counties to house SEAT training was reached to provide long-term training and education. The SOS will have a SEAT plan in place before the end of the year. SEAT training is an important investment ensuring consistency and availability at reasonable costs for training of election officials throughout Iowa.
- A draft of a SEAT curriculum is being reviewed with approval expected in early 2006.
- Online poll worker training RFP:
  - Online poll worker training development will supplement existing poll worker training curriculum that is delivered face to face by county auditors and election officials using training materials developed as part of HAVA efforts in 2004. A Request for Proposals (RFP) was developed by State Public Policy Group on behalf of the SOS, and with input and review by the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to assure economies of scale, compliance with all relevant statutes and rules, and best practices in solicitation and review of proposals. The RFP was released on August 11, 2005.
  - DAS closed the receipt of proposals on September 8, 2005. An Evaluation Committee of Secretary of State Staff and county election officials convened on September 15 under direction of the issuing officer of the DAS Purchasing Division for a deliberative session on the technical proposal and cost proposal scoring. Issuance of a Notice of intent to Award letter to Alliance Technologies occurred in late September.
  - Upon review of the Notice of intent letter, Alliance Technologies signed the online poll worker training contract with a delivery date of March 2006.
- The online poll worker training curriculum is under development to allow poll workers to receive consistent and comprehensive training. The goal of the Secretary of State is to have one certified poll worker per precinct. Some issues remain relating to technology and computers that will be available to poll workers seeking the training.
- The poll worker curriculum was developed in 2004 and is currently being reviewed. Enhancements are planned for the future, with approval in the next two weeks.
- A curriculum and other information were designed to educate New Iowans on voting and other forms of civic participation. Details of this effort are outlined in State and Local Involvement.

## **Voter Outreach**

As the State Commissioner of Elections, the Secretary of State has been integral in voter outreach efforts. The task of educating and registering voters is not a new one, but the HAVA legislation requires that specific efforts be made to ensure that voters have appropriate training

regarding all elements of the voting process. The Secretary of State has continued to lead activities in the areas of voter registration, youth activities, and education to specific populations. For information on general voter outreach, see the section of this report entitled “2005 Election Activities.”

### **Celebrate Voting**

The challenge to involve citizens in voter outreach efforts during an off-election year was met creatively with this year’s Celebrate Voting initiative. Recognizing that HAVA is the most significant piece of voting rights legislation passed since the U.S. Voting Rights Act of 1965, the Secretary of State’s Office coordinated education about HAVA with other celebrations of voting rights that were occurring across Iowa and the United States.

This year marked the 40th anniversary of the U.S. Voting Rights Act, the 85th anniversary of the 19th amendment, which gave women the right to vote, and the 15th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Such a diverse group of celebrations necessitated the formation of the Celebrate Voting Partners, a group of eight organizations, including the Secretary of State’s Office, which came together to assist local organizations in the planning of several statewide events to educate and engage Iowans about their right to vote—past, present, and future. The Celebrate Voting Partners, who also include the Iowa State Historical Foundation, the Iowa Department of Human Rights, the Iowa Civil Rights Commission, the NAACP State Conference, the Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics, ID Action, and the League of Women Voters of Iowa, continue to be instrumental in connecting voter outreach efforts to their respective constituencies and other interested groups. Corporate and private donations to the Iowa State Historical Foundation for this purpose were used for some expenses, including speakers and refreshments for events.

Celebrate Voting events were held across the state, specifically targeting populations who have had historically low voting participation rates, such as persons with disabilities, African-Americans, and college students. In conjunction with Iowa State University’s Catt Center, the University of Iowa’s Center for Human Rights, the University of Northern Iowa’s Public Policy Graduate Program, and Drake University’s Constitutional Law Center, academic symposia were held in order to discuss various issues relating to voting rights. Some celebrations centered on recognizing Iowans who have been important in extending voting rights. Voting Rights Kits were developed for use in schools and local county officials’ offices for public education. Additionally, disability organizations, community partners, local elected officials, and faith-based organizations were tapped to provide their perspectives, raise questions, and supply volunteers and event participants. Some perspectives were captured on a DVD, along with video footage from these events. This DVD has been made available for local use and displayed at many voting rights functions. Together, these events served over 2000 Iowans, including over 500 youth.

### **Essay Contest**

Celebrate Voting continues to serve Iowans in the form of a youth essay and video contest on voting rights and in multi-media kits provided to teachers and interested educational groups.

### **Disability Advocacy**

The Secretary of State also works in conjunction with the Governor's Developmental Disabilities Council in promoting a "Day on the Hill" for persons with disabilities. This provides an opportunity for persons with disabilities to learn and communicate about voting issues with their state policymakers.

### **General Public**

The general public also requires significant training and education regarding all components of HAVA. The work group charged with meeting this aspect of HAVA recently met to add value and approve a statewide voter outreach plan for 2006. This plan is centered on four areas: first time voters, equipment demonstrations, persons with disabilities, and the general public, with a special focus on populations that have typically had a low voter turnout.

## **State and Local Involvement**

The involvement of state and local officials has been crucial to the implementation of the HAVA legislation from the beginning, as evidenced by the continued commitment of the State HAVA Advisory Committee. The Secretary of State's Office opened and maintained several lines of communication in 2005 for the purpose of ensuring that stakeholders have timely knowledge and have ample opportunity to participate in a transparent decision-making process.

### **Local Involvement**

County Auditors remain deeply involved in HAVA implementation in a number of ways. First, several Auditors continue to serve on the HAVA Advisory Committee, the Financial Oversight Committee, the Training and Education Subcommittee, and other ad hoc groups to facilitate smooth and equitable decision making. A group of committed County Auditors also helped to pioneer the training process for counties that will allow all counties to securely transition to the single, statewide voter registration system required by HAVA. These Pilot Counties provided significant time and effort to give input to the Secretary of State's Office and the software contractor so that the final registration database is secure, user-friendly, and reflects the needs of local election staff. Auditors also afforded valuable assistance in various Celebrate Voting projects.

County Supervisors were also instrumental in the process of selecting voting systems that are appropriate for each county. They are the ultimate decision makers with regard to equipment purchases, and are to be commended for timely action that has resulted in near complete compliance as of this date and that will certainly result in total compliance by the December 31,

2005 deadline. In a series of regional outreach meetings in spring of 2005, the Secretary of State's Office met with County Auditors and Supervisors to discuss the specific requirements of HAVA and to gather input from those officials on what counties needed in order to meet the requirements.

### **State Involvement**

Members of the General Assembly receive biweekly updates on HAVA implementation via the HAVA Newsletter that is mailed electronically to legislators serving in a certain capacity and many local elected officials. The Government Oversight Committee has been an important avenue in ensuring that the Secretary of State hears the comments and concerns of Iowans regarding HAVA. Moreover, a number of legislators serve ex officio on either the HAVA Advisory Committee or Training and Education Committee.

A number of state agencies have also shown interest in HAVA implementation, including the Governor's Office. Most notably, the Department of Administrative Services and the Attorney General's Office have facilitated contracts with vendors for the I-VOTERS voter registration database and for voting systems vendors.

### **New Iowans**

The purpose of the New Iowans project is to produce The Iowa New Citizens Civic handbook. The handbook focuses on civic education and participation in the community and in voting. It discusses how the United States was formed; the structure of the federal, state and local governments, citizen's involvement in the election process, and Iowa's voting process. This handbook is designed to be an interactive training manual for new Iowans.

The training will utilize three resource tools:

- Civic handbook
- Facilitator's guide
- Video on the voting process

The handbook covers:

- United States government formation
- The three branches of government
- States voting rights and responsibility and the structure of Iowa's state government
- Local government in Iowa: county and municipal systems
- Educational system in Iowa
- Benefits and responsibilities of citizenship
- Voting in Iowa

The facilitator's guide covers:

- Content in the handbook

- A collection of tools available to enhance learning and expand civic participation beyond the classroom session

The video covers:

- Public Service Announcement encouraging citizens to exercise their voting rights
- Voting in Iowa

An outcome of the New Iowans Initiative is expected to be that new citizens gain a higher awareness of significant issues and the importance of voting. Additionally, it is hoped that the participants will experience an increased comfort level about voting and civic participation.

The handbook will be distributed in a variety of venues, including naturalization ceremonies, public libraries, ESL classes, cultural based organizations, faith based sponsoring groups, educational institutions at all levels, election offices at courthouses, city clerks' offices, service organizations and advocacy groups.

## Looking Ahead

As Iowa moves forward with implementing the HAVA legislation, much is planned in the HAVA State Plan's primary activity areas.

### Voting Equipment

- All counties had equipment in place HAVA compliant equipment on or before December 31, 2005. Final delivery will occur in the first half of 2006.

### Voter Registration

- As implementation of the statewide voter registration system, I-VOTERS continues, the Secretary of State is planning to develop processes and roles necessary to provide top quality support to counties. Plans are also in place to provide ongoing software management and to develop a customer advisory council and user groups to provide feedback and recommendations on needed changes in the I-VOTERS system. Ninety-nine counties were in live production status by December 31, 2005.

### Training and Education

- Outreach targeted to specific communities in 2006 will include first time voters and the general public. The Secretary of State's Office and local County Auditors will focus on strengthening relationships with various constituencies in order to educate more populations about voting. As equipment is replaced, instructions specific to the equipment type will need to be well communicated to the public through demonstrations.
- Persons with disabilities will be important targets of voter outreach in the coming months.

- Continual improvements will be made in the training of election officials and poll workers. The SEAT program will be sustained through planning, seeded by HAVA funds. The online poll worker training curriculum will be developed and implemented in the spring of 2006.

## Summary

Iowa has continued to stay on target in both financial matters and the timely implementation of the HAVA State Plan. Having made significant investments of time and effort at the state, local, and individual levels, stakeholders in the election process have put in place a strong foundation from which decisions will be made to spend \$30 million to make Iowa's election administration even better. With funding comes a variety of challenges. Systematic and transparent decision-making continues to be a guiding principle and practice of this effort.

This implementation would not have been successful without the vision and commitment of the HAVA Advisory Committee, the HAVA Financial Oversight Committee, Training and Education Committee, Equipment Work Group, and other groups who have worked on this process. These groups, along with county election officials, have shown their commitment to the implementation of these mandates throughout a process that was, at times, uncertain.

It is critical that these funds be viewed as Iowa funds, with the focus on all the voters in the state. In an effort to ensure that 80% or more of these funds go to counties to improve the election system for all, it will be necessary to provide adequate technical assistance and support to the counties, as well as appropriate checks and balances regarding the funding.

This report provides a summary of HAVA activities over the last calendar year. Significant time has been invested, and many individuals throughout the state have been involved in this effort. The Secretary of State is proud of the work of the county election officials, committees, work groups and his staff of the Secretary of State's Office in making Iowa's voting administration stronger.



# HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT (HAVA) EXPENSE SUMMARY

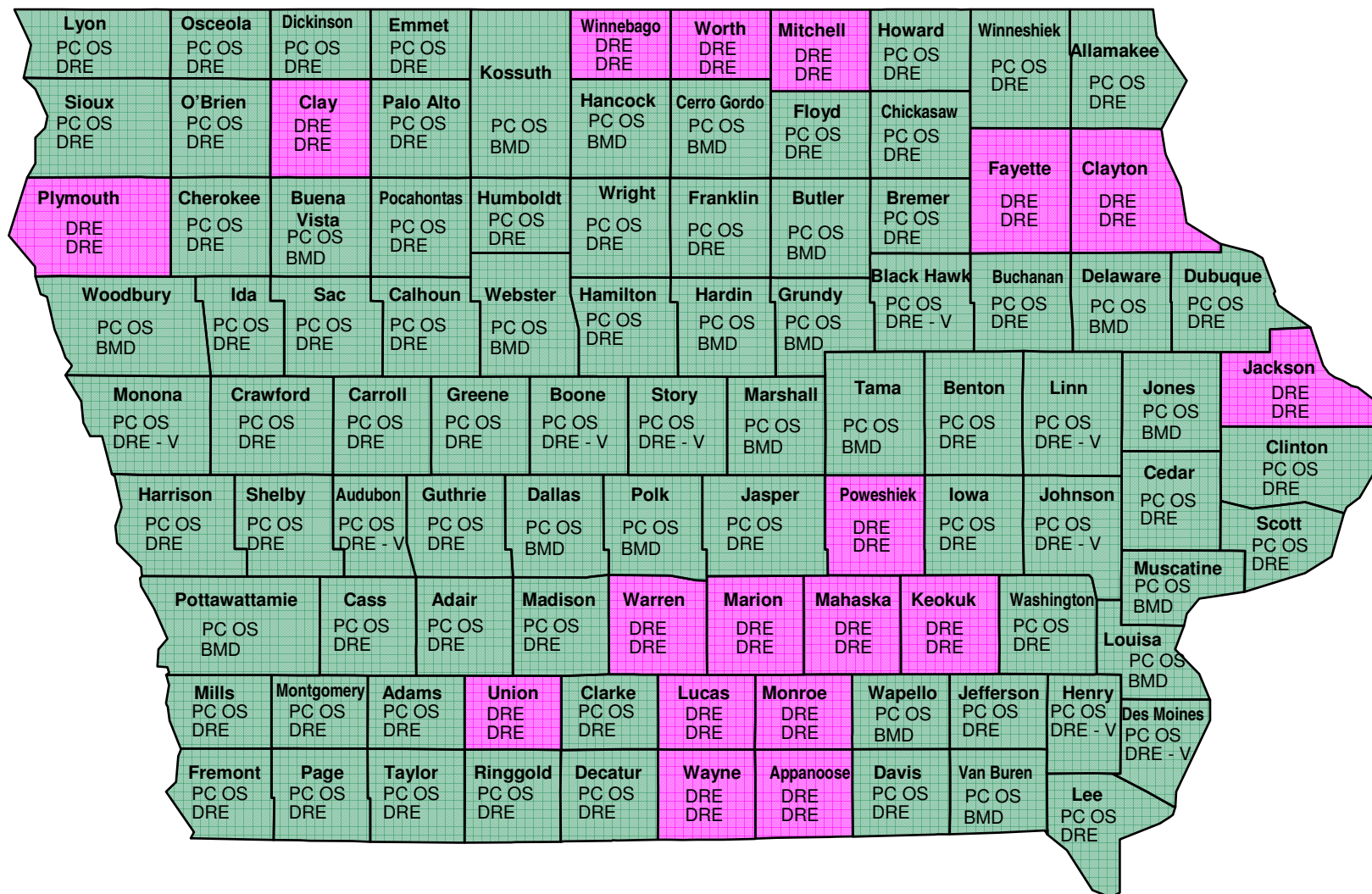
<u>Revenue</u>	<u>ACTUAL FY03</u>	<u>ACTUAL FY04</u>	<u>ACTUAL FY05</u>	<u>ACTUAL YTD FY06</u>	<u>TOTAL REV REC'D</u>	<u>FY06</u>	<u>FY07</u>	<u>FY08</u>		<u>BUDGETED</u>
Federal Funding	5,000,000.00	23,739,383.00			28,739,383.00					28,739,383.00
Interest	13,972.16	108,531.59	666,552.83	290,835.77	1,079,892.35	300,000.00	109,064.42	25,000.00		1,223,121.00
State Match	423,000.00	765,000.00			1,188,000.00					1,188,000.00
EAID Grants						222,161.00				222,161.00
IDAction Grant			10,000.00		10,000.00					10,000.00
REIMBURSEMENTS				72.50	72.50					
<b>REVENUE TOTAL</b>	<b>5,436,972.16</b>	<b>24,612,914.59</b>	<b>676,552.83</b>	<b>290,908.27</b>	<b>31,017,347.85</b>	<b>522,161.00</b>	<b>109,064.42</b>	<b>25,000.00</b>		<b>31,382,665.00</b>
<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>ACTUAL FY03</u>	<u>ACTUAL FY04</u>	<u>ACTUAL FY05</u>	<u>ACTUAL YTD FY06</u>	<u>TOTAL EXP</u>	<u>FY06</u>	<u>FY07</u>	<u>FY08</u>	<u>LINE ITEM BUDGET</u>	<u>BUDGETED</u>
<b>TRAINING &amp; EDUCATION</b>										3,001,505.07
General										
VTE - Misc			3,345.97		3,345.97	6,654.03			10,000.00	
VTE - Plan Implementation			62,500.00		62,500.00	30,000.00			92,500.00	
VTE - Travel			1,004.18		1,004.18	8,995.82			10,000.00	
Gen'l Training & Educ Subtotal			66,850.15		66,850.15	45,649.85			112,500.00	
Election Official & Pollworker										
EOP - Auditor Training			323.00		323.00	10,000.00	14,677.00		25,000.00	
EOP - MEOC				7,133.81	7,133.81	50,000.00			50,000.00	
EOP - Misc						50,000.00	50,000.00		100,000.00	
EOP - Other Contractual						100,000.00			100,000.00	
EOP - Pollworker Training			70,336.32	34.61	70,370.93	200,000.00	200,000.00	200,000.00	670,336.32	
EOP - SEAT Misc		1,200.00			1,200.00	4,518.00	4,545.00		10,263.00	
EOP - SEAT Registration		49,910.00	44,600.00		94,510.00	50,000.00	50,000.00		194,510.00	
EOP - Travel			1,120.58		1,120.58	7,500.00	7,500.00		16,120.58	
Election Official & Pollworker Subtotal		51,110.00	116,379.90	7,168.42	174,658.32	472,018.00	326,722.00	200,000.00	1,166,229.90	
Voter Outreach										
VO - Direct Mail			328,932.13		328,932.13	71067.87	350,000.00		750,000.00	
VO - Misc			1,131.09	8.50	1,139.59	50,000.00	28,868.91		80,000.00	
VO - Other Contractual			31,145.00	29,445.00	31,145.00	108,855.00	50,000.00		190,000.00	
VO - Outreach		562.80	174,346.00	151,993.11	326,901.91	109,370.00	100,000.00		384,278.80	
VO - PSA						50,000.00	50,000.00		100,000.00	
VO - Salaries		38,442.32	27,190.17	12,902.00	65,632.49	55,000.00	55,000.00		175,632.49	
VO - Travel		175.64	1,115.26	503.70	1,290.90	20,000.00	13,522.30		34,813.20	
VO - Youth Summit		550.68			550.68	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	8,050.68	
Voter Outreach Subtotal		39,731.44	563,859.65	194,852.31	755,592.70	466,792.87	649,891.21	2,500.00	1,722,775.17	
Training & Education Subtotal		90,841.44	747,089.70	202,020.73	1,039,951.87	984,460.72	976,613.21	202,500.00	3,001,505.07	
<b>PROVISIONAL VOTING</b>										3,903.30
PV - Travel		806.60			806.60	996.70	500.00		2,303.30	
PV - Misc						1,100.00	500.00		1,600.00	
Provisional Voting Total		806.60			806.60	2,096.70	1,000.00		3,903.30	

# HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT (HAVA) EXPENSE SUMMARY

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>ACTUAL FY03</u>	<u>ACTUAL FY04</u>	<u>ACTUAL FY05</u>	<u>ACTUAL YTD FY06</u>	<u>TOTAL EXP</u>	<u>FY06</u>	<u>FY07</u>	<u>FY08</u>	<u>LINE ITEM BUDGET</u>	<u>BUDGETED</u>
<u>VOTER REGISTRATION SYSTEM</u>										8,097,311.37
VRS - Facilitation User Groups		7,000.00	16,046.88		23,046.88	3,953.12			27,000.00	
VRS - Miscellaneous		1,379.91	4,586.28	310.01	6,276.20	5,200.00			11,166.19	
VRS - Other Contractual			37,774.39	68,980.01	106,754.40	62,225.61			100,000.00	
VRS - Plan Implementation		18,833.00			18,833.00	8,000.00			26,833.00	
VRS - Salaries		57,362.73	79,734.07	42,945.11	180,041.91	150,326.00	150,000.00	150,000.00	587,422.80	
VRS - Statewide System			2,366,296.10	1,547,697.70	3,913,993.80	3,517,670.34			5,883,966.44	
VRS - Training Statewide System Use			28,620.98	43,723.83	72,344.81	75,000.00	75,000.00	55,646.35	234,267.33	
VRS - Travel		5,809.69	10,658.71	2,606.40	19,074.80	10,187.21			26,655.61	
System Maintenance							600,000.00	600,000.00	1,200,000.00	
<b>Voter Registration System Total</b>		<b>90,385.33</b>	<b>2,543,717.41</b>	<b>1,706,263.06</b>	<b>4,340,365.80</b>	<b>3,832,562.28</b>	<b>825,000.00</b>	<b>805,646.35</b>	<b>8,097,311.37</b>	
<u>VOTING SYSTEMS</u>										18,771,836.80
* VS - County Grants (lease)			174,441.06		174,441.06				174,441.06	
VS - County Grants (purchase)			585,970.00	4,011,376.53	4,597,346.53	17,439,983.00			18,025,953.00	
VS - Special Allotment						500,000.00			500,000.00	
VS - Facilitation of User Group		11,500.00			11,500.00	24,800.00			36,300.00	
VS - Miscellaneous		173.66	956.50	6.46	1,136.62	4,421.44			5,551.60	
VS - Other Contractual		1,403.85			1,403.85				1,403.85	
VS - Plan Implementation		8,833.00	12,500.00		21,333.00				21,333.00	
VS - Travel		3,224.83	3,629.46		6,854.29				6,854.29	
<b>Voting Systems Total</b>		<b>25,135.34</b>	<b>777,497.02</b>	<b>4,011,382.99</b>	<b>4,814,015.35</b>	<b>17,969,204.44</b>			<b>18,771,836.80</b>	
<u>ADA ACCESSIBLE POLLING PLACES</u>										580,145.74
Accessibility			65,797.67	269,961.41	335,759.08	414,023.68			479,821.35	
Access & Participation		3,573.00	10,000.00		13,573.00	5,000.00			18,573.00	
Training		5,490.00	24,875.00		30,365.00	3,000.00			33,365.00	
Information dissemination			42,386.39	3,961.55	46,347.94	6,000.00			48,386.39	
<b>ADA - Accessible Polling Places Total</b>		<b>9,063.00</b>	<b>143,059.06</b>	<b>273,922.96</b>	<b>426,045.02</b>	<b>428,023.68</b>			<b>580,145.74</b>	
<u>PROGRAM MANAGEMENT</u>										911,850.35
PM - Administration		827.09	3,443.77	6,046.07	10,316.93	5,854.71	20,000.00		30,125.57	
PM - Implementation & Planning		47,186.72	91,577.88		138,764.60	50,000.00	5,000.00		193,764.60	
PM - Miscellaneous		2,103.94	43,879.84	2,619.94	48,603.72	25,632.03	25,000.00		96,615.81	
PM - Other Contractual			3,000.00	17,145.00	20,145.00	125,000.00	25,000.00		153,000.00	
PM - Salaries			145,351.27	101,864.94	247,216.21	150,000.00	104,477.86		399,829.13	
PM - Travel Other		2,550.80	18,109.08	11,484.96	32,144.84	7,855.36	10,000.00		38,515.24	
<b>Program Management Total</b>		<b>52,668.55</b>	<b>305,361.84</b>	<b>139,160.91</b>	<b>497,191.30</b>	<b>364,342.10</b>	<b>189,477.86</b>		<b>911,850.35</b>	
<u>CONTINGENCY FUNDS</u>								16,112.37	16,112.37	16,112.37
<b>EXPENSE BUDGET TOTAL</b>		<b>268,900.26</b>	<b>4,516,725.03</b>	<b>6,332,750.65</b>	<b>11,118,375.94</b>	<b>23,580,689.92</b>	<b>1,992,091.07</b>	<b>1,024,258.72</b>	<b>31,382,665.00</b>	<b>31,382,665.00</b>

# HAVA Compliant Voting Systems in Iowa

Contracts approved by Secretary of State, December 22, 2005



## Primary Voting System



Precinct Count Optical Scan



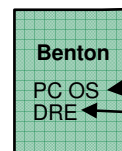
Direct Recording Electronic (DRE)

PC OS – Precinct Count Optical Scan

DRE – Direct Recording Electronic

BMD – Ballot Marking Device

V – DRE includes a Voter Verifiable Paper Trail

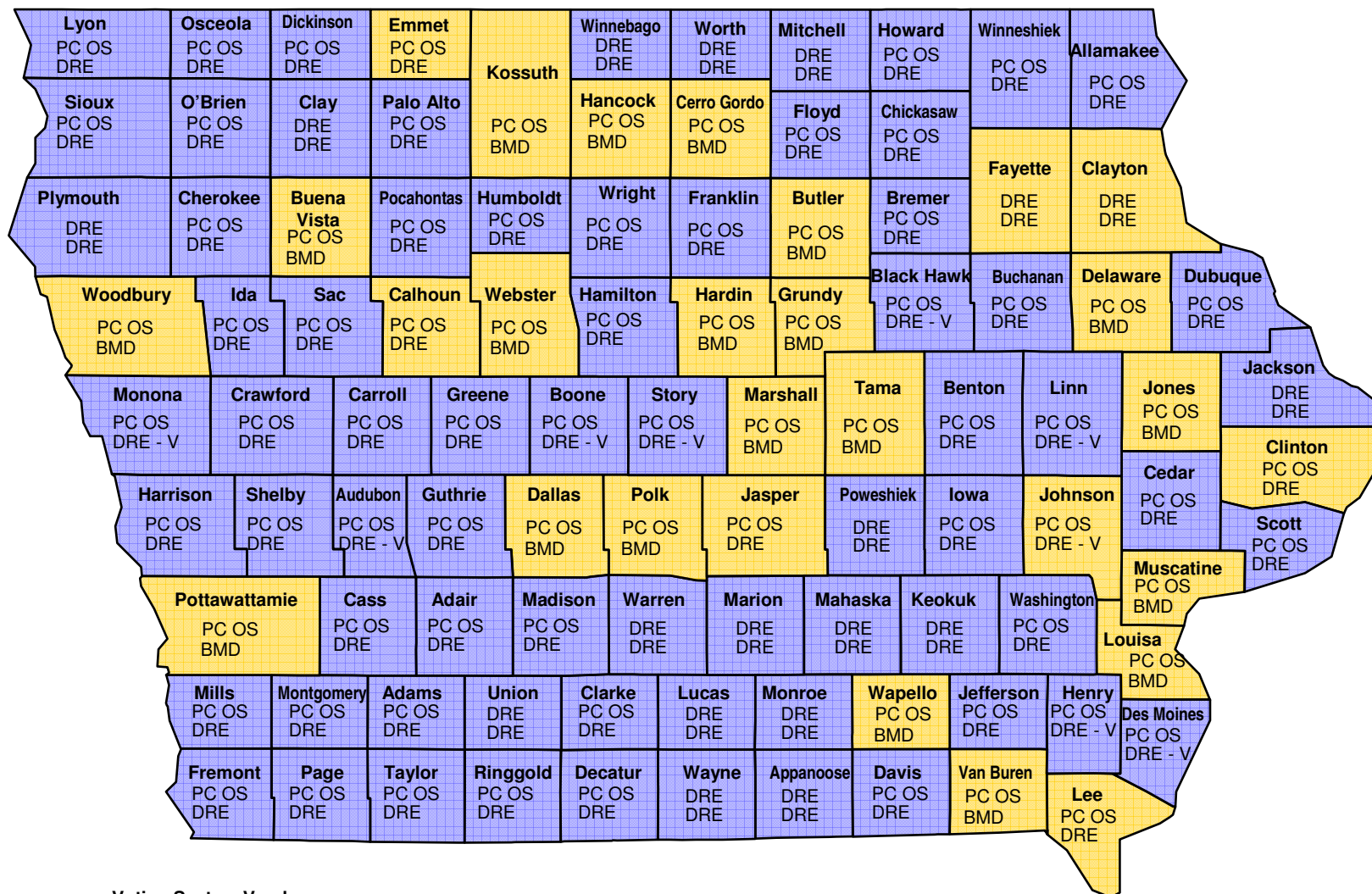


Primary system on top

Accessibility component on bottom

# HAVA Compliant Voting Systems in Iowa

Contracts approved by Secretary of State, December 22, 2005



## Voting System Vendor

	Diebold
	ES&S

PC OS – Precinct Count Optical Scan

DRE – Direct Recording Electronic (Touchscreen)

BMD – Ballot Marking Device (AutoMark)

V – DRE includes a Voter Verifiable Paper Trail

Benton
PC OS
DRE

Primary system on top

Accessibility component on bottom



*Week of April 18*

*Volume 2, Issue 11*

## **Welcome**

Welcome to the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) newsletter. This newsletter is distributed regularly by E-mail to keep you informed of HAVA issues and progress. As HAVA is implemented in Iowa, the goal of the Secretary of State's Office and the HAVA State Advisory Committee is to have Iowa lead the nation in its election processes and practices. This newsletter outlines Iowa's progress and the continuing work toward full implementation of Iowa's HAVA plan. Hundreds of volunteers and election officials contributed to the accomplishments made thus far, and collectively, more results will be realized in 2005. You can access past editions *HAVA Weekly News* or other HAVA reports on the Web site: [www.sos.state.ia.us/elections/HAVA/Newsletters/index.html](http://www.sos.state.ia.us/elections/HAVA/Newsletters/index.html)

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## **Progress on Equipment Testing & Certification**

The Board of Examiners met Monday for its first 2005 session to test voting system hardware and software as a prerequisite to Iowa certification. **ES&S** has now been NASED-qualified (National Assoc. of State Election Directors) and state certified for the iVotronic DRE, M100 precinct count, 650 central count and Unity Software System. Additional ES&S products are in or nearing the testing phase with the Independent Testing Authority (ITA) -- the Automark device is in the functional testing process at the ITA; a paper audit component will be submitted to ITA.

The certification status reported by other voting equipment vendors is as follows:

- ❑ **Microvote** intends to send its system to the ITA for testing in May.
- ❑ **Diebold** representatives indicated they expect to submit an application for state certification in May for its complete voting system.
- ❑ **Sequoia** anticipates submitting a touch-screen system for state certification in May and optical scan products in June. Both products are currently moving through the ITA process.

The certification of voting systems is a priority for the Secretary of State and the Voter Services Division. The certification process will be completed as quickly as possible.

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## Equipment Vendors Met Tuesday

The Secretary of State's office maintains regular contact with vendors planning to apply for certification for voting systems to be purchased and used in Iowa. The most recent meeting was held Tuesday, with representatives from four companies and officials from the Secretary of State's office participating. The primary topic, one that has been raised in meetings with county officials, was the issue of upgrades to make existing systems compliant with 2002 Federal Voting System Standards. In response to the question of system upgrades, the four vendors shared the following information:

- ❑ **Diebold** indicated that an upgrade for its product would be close to the price of purchasing a new machine, so the company is not pursuing an upgrade option.
- ❑ **Microvote** indicated that no upgrade would be available for its system.
- ❑ **Sequoia** presented no upgrade options.
- ❑ **ES&S** indicated that for minimal costs, its current M100s could be upgraded.

Vendors also commented on the Invitation to Bid (ITB) that was released in draft form a week earlier. Consideration will be given to comments from the vendor community as the final ITB is prepared.

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## Agenda for HAVA State Advisory Meeting - April 27

The HAVA State Advisory Committee will meet on Wednesday, April 27 at 1:30 pm. The meeting will be held in the Botanical Center in Des Moines, located on Robert Ray Drive (south of University Ave.; just east of the Des Moines River). The agenda is shown here. It also is included as a word document attachment. The Botanical Center has a nice café – The Riverwalk Café – that serves lunch from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. It may be a convenient option to consider.

1. Opening Comments
  2. Review Agenda and Action Needed
  3. Financial Oversight Committee Report
  4. Voting Systems/Election Systems/Equipment
  5. Funding and Legal Considerations
  6. HAVA State Plan Update
  7. Reports on:
    - A. Accessibility Grants
    - B. Training
    - C. I-VOTERS
  8. Closing Comments
-



## County Plans Due April 30

The Secretary of State's office has asked counties to submit Voting System Compliance plans by April 30, 2005. Completed plans will include a timeline for implementing voting system upgrades and a description of the system choices the county plans to make to achieve HAVA equipment compliance. The Compliance Plan is a non-bonding document used for planning purposes.

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## HAVA Implementation Assistance from County Advocates

In order to facilitate the voting systems and accessibility portions of HAVA, the Secretary of State's office added county advocate staffing assignments to several individuals who will serve as county liaisons and assist in the implementation process. Each advocate is assigned to work with several counties and provide assistance as needed. The county advocates are assigned responsibilities in the following areas:

### Voting System Project

- ☐ Assist County in completing County Compliance Plan
- ☐ Assist County in completing Allocation Application
- ☐ Assist County in completing Allocation Agreement and submitting Vendor Contract
- ☐ Assist County with implementing new equipment

### Accessibility Project

- ☐ Work with County to review polling places for accessibility
- ☐ Assist County in developing plans to improve polling place accessibility
- ☐ Assist County in applying for Accessibility Grants

### Other Responsibilities

- ☐ Assist County in obtaining information from the Secretary of State's Office.

The SOS office recognizes that county auditors and their staff are very busy; and that the mix of HAVA components may stretch available staff resources at various times of implementation. We hope county advocates can be utilized as staff extensions to help complete HAVA projects on a county-by-county basis. For example, a county advocate could assist with an accessibility project by obtaining bids on a ramp installation at a polling place. The Secretary of State's office is encouraging county auditors and their staff to make full use of this additional resource available to counties during the critical months of HAVA implementation.

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## Meet the County Advocates

**Michelle Bauer** -- Michelle has worked in the Secretary of State's voter services division for two years, and also serves as a legislative liaison for the agency. With the legislative session winding down, Michelle is looking forward to directing her time to

HAVA implementation as a County Advocate. Statewide, she coordinates the Polling Place Accessibility Grant Program will continue to serve as a resource on polling place accessibility. Michelle will be the county advocate for 14 counties in northwest Iowa.

**Brad Burnquist** -- Brad currently works in the Secretary of State's office where he has been coordinating a variety of youth activities. Last fall, Brad worked with county officials in the six paper/lever counties that replaced voting systems and together, they provided voter education demonstrations with the new equipment. Brad will be the county advocate for 20 counties in western and southwest Iowa.

**Anthony Carroll** -- Anthony works in the Secretary of state's office as director of voter education and also serves as a legislative liaison. In 2004, Anthony coordinated voter education efforts for the Secretary of State's office. He also provided support to the six lever/paper counties that replaced voting systems. Anthony will be the county advocate for 12 counties in northeast and eastern Iowa.

**Kaitlynn Lewis** -- Kaitlynn joins the Secretary of State's office after extensive work in nonprofit development and organization management. Most recently, she was marketing manager for WSUI/KSUI public radio. She will be a part-time county advocate and will also work on voter education/outreach programs. Kaitlynn will be the county advocate for 10 counties surrounding Johnson County.

**Judy Lowe** -- Judy joins the Secretary of State's office after extensive work in facilities management and customer service. Previously, Judy worked as special events coordinator for the State of Iowa (Dept. of Administrative Services). She will be county advocate for 23 counties in northern and central Iowa.

**Scott Ourth** -- Scott joins the Secretary of State's office after extensive work as a disabilities advocate. Most recently Scott served as Public Relations Director for Michigan Protection and Advocacy Service, Inc. Scott will be the county advocate for 20 counties in central and southern Iowa.

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## Upcoming Meetings

**Monday, April 25 -- HAVA Public Meeting** in Woodbury County (**Sioux City**) – 7:00 pm  
Western Iowa Technical Community College, 4647 Stone Avenue

**Tuesday, April 26 – HAVA Financial Oversight** / Budget Committee – 4:30 pm, Lucas State Office Building in the Secretary of State's Conference Room; chaired by Mike King, Union County Supervisor.

**Wednesday, April 27 – HAVA Advisory Committee** – 1:30 pm, Des Moines Botanical Center, 909 Robert D. Ray Drive (south of University Ave., North of I-235).